Amendments to the Specification:

On page 1, prior to the first paragraph which begins on line 3, please insert the following:

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

On page 1, prior to the second paragraph which begins on line 6, please insert the following:

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

On page 1, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 31, please insert the following:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please replace the paragraph which appears on page 1, line 31 and ends on page 2, line 17, with the following rewritten paragraph:

An object of the invention is, therefore, to provide a pressure sensor, which overcomes the recited disadvantages of the state of the art. This object is solved according to the invention by the pressure sensor ~~as defined in independent claim 1. The pressure sensor of the invention~~ which includes: A pressure measuring cell having an end face loadable with the medium; a housing having a media opening and a ring-shaped, axial, bearing surface, which surrounds the media opening; a clamping apparatus; and a ring-shaped sealing arrangement; wherein the pressure measuring cell is positioned in the housing and the sealing arrangement is positioned between the bearing surface and the end face, and the sealing arrangement, as well as the pressure measuring cell, are axially clamped between the bearing surface and the clamping apparatus; characterized in that the sealing arrangement includes a decoupling ring as well as first and second, ring-shaped, sealing elements, the first sealing element lies against the end face, the second sealing lies against the bearing surface, and the decoupling ring is axially clamped between the first and second sealing elements.

On page 4, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 11, please insert the following:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

On page 4, prior to the paragraph which begins on line 30, please insert the following:

DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Please replace the paragraph which appears on page 6, line 18 and ends at line 30 with the following rewritten paragraph:

The pressure measuring cell in Fig. 1 has, additionally, a rear-side stiffening plate 13 and a rear-side stiffening ring 12. Stiffening ring 12 is arranged between platform 10 and the stiffening plate. The axial clamping forces are transmitted from the threaded ring 23, through the rear-side stiffening plate 13 and the rear-side stiffening ring 12 to the platform 10 of the pressure measuring cell. Although, with this construction, radial deformations in the membrane region due to axial clamping forces and hysteresis errors due to the support with the threaded ring can be decreased, nevertheless the stiffening plate and the stiffening ring are not absolutely necessary for putting the present invention into practice. Details concerning the stiffening plate are disclosed in the unpublished patent application 10243079 of ~~the present assignee~~ Endress + Hauser.